

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 14-34 will be pending upon entry of this amendment. These claims find support in the specification and original claims as follows: Claim 14 (Claim 1, pages 14, 18 and 19, Example 4, which uses 50µl of 0.4% surfactant and 150µl of other assay components (see page 14, lines 9-13), Claims 15-17 (page 11, second full paragraph), Claims 18-22 (page 6, lines 1-4), Claims 23-24 (page 6, last five lines-page 7), Claim 24-27 (page 7, last ten lines-page 9), Claims 28-32 (pages 17-20), and Claims 33-34 (Claims 10-13). Accordingly, the Applicants do not believe that any new matter has been introduced.

Statement Regarding Sequence Listing

The paper copy of the Sequence Listing filed herewith for this application is identical to the paper copy and the computer readable Sequence Listing filed on May 14, 2004 in the present application's parent: U.S. Application No. 09/581,241.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.821 (e), please use the computer readable form (CRF) filed on May 14, 2004 in the parent application as the computer readable form for the present application. It is understood that the Patent and Trademark Office will make the necessary change in application number and filing date for the instant application.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants now respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment and an early examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Customer Number
22850



Thomas M. Cunningham
Registration No. 45,394

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

NFO:TMC\la